

Alpine Lakes Wilderness

Enchantments, Stuart, Colchuck, Snow
Lakes, Eightmile and Caroline Lakes

Wilderness Permit Information and Application

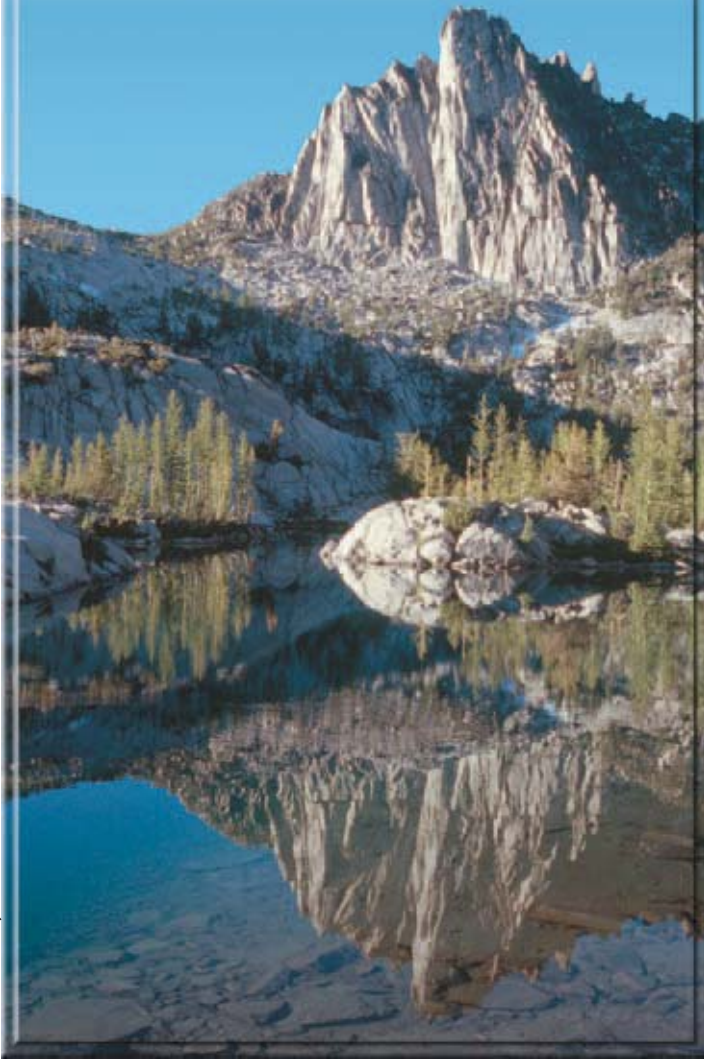
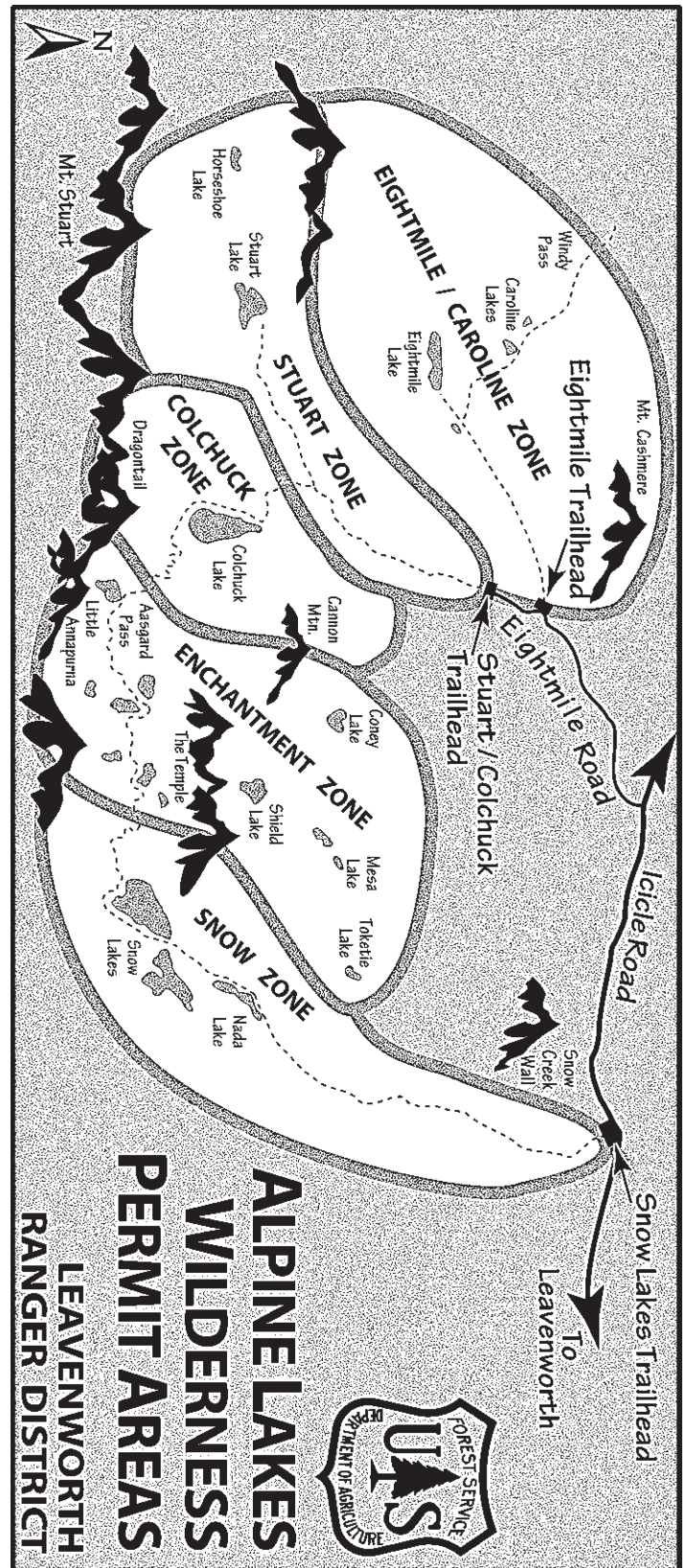


Photo: John Lindsey Juelson



USDA Forest Service • Pacific Northwest Region
Okanogan and Wenatchee National Forests
Lake Wenatchee and Leavenworth Ranger Districts

READ FIRST... Application Instructions and Intricacies

The Permit System: Quota permits are required for overnight camping in the Enchantment area of the Alpine Lakes Wilderness. These include the following 5 quota zones: Enchantments, Snow Lakes, Stuart Lake, Colchuck Lake, and Eightmile/Caroline Lakes areas and the trails leading to them. **The permit season is from June 15 to October 15. Due to the popularity of the Enchantment Zone, only one application at a time per family and obtaining only one permit each year for this zone is allowed.** This application is also available on our website: www.fs.fed.us/r6/wenatchee/

Obtaining Permit Reservations:

- Permits are available only through the Leavenworth Ranger Station.
- Reservations may be made by mail beginning on **March 1** or in person at the ranger station after **March 31**. In-person reservations do not get priority. No FAX, e-mail or phone reservations.

APPLICATION PROCESSING: Beginning March 1 reservations are processed randomly to handle the initial deluge of requests. Applications are processed in the order received thereafter. Applications must be postmarked no earlier than February 21; *those postmarked before that date will be rejected.* Most Enchantment Zone dates fill with the March 1 applications. Applications are accepted from February 21-October 15 each year.

***SELECT ENTRY DATE:** Include several alternatives in case your first request is unavailable. Include other helpful instructions for additional flexibility (for example, you could say, "Any 4 days in August" or "3 days any weekend after July 15, starting on a Friday or Saturday")
NOTE: All choices must have the same amount of days and number of people so payment is correct.

CHOOSE THE ZONE YOU WANT TO CAMP IN:

To camp in the Enchantments you must have a permit for the *Enchantment Zone*. This permit also allows you to camp in any other zone. Permit holders for other zones must camp in that zone the first night; they can then move to any zone EXCEPT the *Enchantment Zone* for the following nights. **Your group must camp together.**

INCLUDE APPLICATION FEE: A fee is required for all overnight permits and must accompany the application. The fee is \$3 per person per day. *Partial days, such as the first and last day count as complete days.*

CONFIRMATION: Your reservation will be confirmed or rejected in writing. The fee will be returned if your reservation cannot be confirmed. If the reservation is confirmed and you cancel later, there will be no refund of the fee. *Please allow at least two weeks for processing your application* (longer in March).

PERMIT PICKUP: Permits must be picked up in person at the ranger station to better manage the "no-show" factor. Those "no-show" permits can then be issued to others. **The earliest your permits can be issued is after 4:30 the day before your entry date.** You cannot start your trip, however, until the following day. The *latest* you can pick up your permit is 9:00 a.m. on the day of departure unless you call ahead. **If you should arrive when the office is closed, permits will be placed in the permit box located on the front porch of the office.**

TRIP CHANGES: A fee of \$10 will be charged for changes. If adding people to your group or extending your trip, additional fees of \$3 per person per day are also required. Entry dates will be changed only if space is available. No changes accepted until after April 15th.

DAY USE PERMITS: Self-issue day-use permits are available at trailheads and the Leavenworth Ranger Station. These free permits are required from May 15 to October 31.

OBTAINING OVERNIGHT PERMITS WITHOUT A RESERVATION:

Visitors who are unable or who do not want to make advance reservations during the quota permit period may take advantage of the 25% walk-in quota. This quota will be available at the Leavenworth Ranger Station beginning at 7:45 a.m. on the *day of* the trip. A daily drawing will be used to determine which waiting parties receive permits. Permits will be issued until available spots are filled. The permit fee of \$3 per person per day applies to walk-in permit holders.

For your records: Dates You Wish to Enter and Exit the Area

Choice	Enter Date	Exit Date
First		
Second		
Third		
Trailhead		

WILDERNESS PERMITS

Questions and Answers

Are parking passes required?

Overnight permit holders will be provided a parking pass good for the length of the trip. Day users are required to display the regional pass.

How many permits are issued a day?

	BY RESERVATION	DAY OF DRAWING
Enchantments?	15 people	5 people
Colchuck?	3 parties	1 party
Stuart?	4 parties	1 party
Snow/Nada?	4 parties	1 party
Eightmile/Carolines?	5 parties	5 parties

How long can I stay?

14 days is the maximum length of stay. You are not allowed to come out of the wilderness and then re-enter on the same permit.

If I'm not coming, should I cancel?

YES. Your spot will be made available to others.

What's the weather like?

Expect extreme weather conditions any time of the year. Call for a report at (206) 464-2000 (category 9904 and 9908) or on the web at: www.wrh.noaa.gov/Seattle/

When are the larch turning?

It varies from late September through mid-October.

How many days do you recommend?

The Enchantment trip is recommended for experienced hikers. Plan at least 3 days for your trip. Steep elevation changes and rough terrain make this trip very strenuous. Purchase Green Trails Map #209S for exact distances and elevation gains. Trailhead choice depends on your hiking ability and preference.

Are there bears?

Yes. Hang your food, toiletries, and trash 15 feet up and 5 feet out from a tree. Cook away from sleeping area.

May I bring my horse (or llama or goat)?

Stock are allowed, subject to all applicable regulations, at any time in the Eightmile/Caroline zone, and in the Stuart Lake zone only from the Saturday following Labor Day to January 1. The maximum group size is 8, including stock.

Can you recommend other areas if I don't get a permit?

Chiwaukum/Larch Lakes, Lake Augusta, Blackjack Ridge/Cradle Lake, and Chain/Doelle Lakes.

Minimize Your Impact To Help Protect This Fragile Environment...

FIRES... Campfires are prohibited everywhere above the 5,000 feet elevation and within ½ mile of Nada, Eightmile, and Little Eightmile Lakes. This leaves only a few campsites along the Snow Lake and Stuart Lake trails where fires are allowed.

DOGS... Dogs are prohibited throughout the permit area to protect wildlife, water quality, and the wilderness experience.

ROCK WALLS... Don't build 'em.

GOATS... Goats are after salt—please don't urinate on vegetation—go on a rock or dig a hole in a sandy area where goats won't paw up vegetation.

TOILETS... Use them where provided or bury waste at least 6 inches deep. DO NOT PUT ANY GARBAGE IN TOILETS!

CAMPING... At Snow and Nada Lakes, campsites are designated with a hiker symbol. Elsewhere camp in previously impacted sites.

TRAILS... Follow the cairns and stay on rock where possible to protect the fragile, alpine vegetation. When trails are muddy, stay on the trail instead of going to the side. Avoid walking on heather and huckleberry.

WATER... Help keep the lakes clean—do your washing well away from water (never in it!). Even biodegradable soap does not break down quickly in cold water. Filter or treat your drinking water—giardia is not fun!

FISHING... It's okay with a valid Washington State fishing license. Please bury your fish guts and don't leave line and lures behind.

Leavenworth Ranger Station
600 Sherbourne Leavenworth, WA 98826
(509) 548-6977

This application is also available on our website:
www.fs.fed.us/r6/wenatchee

The policy of the United States Department of Agriculture Forest Service prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, age, religion, sex, disability, familial status, or political affiliation. Persons believing they have been discriminated against in any Forest Service related activity should write to: Chief, Forest Service, USDA, P.O. Box 96090, Washington, DC 20090-6090.

ALPINE LAKES WILDERNESS**Reservation Application
For Overnight Permit****READ INSTRUCTIONS FIRST. This application for
ONE trip only. Please print carefully.**

Name: _____

Address: _____

City (no abbreviations): _____

State: _____ Zip: _____

Phone: () _____

Number of People in Party (Including Self) **Maximum Group Size is 8**Please indicate below your first, second, and third choices for
dates you plan to enter and exit the area.**Note: You are required to start your trip on the first day****Choice Enter Date Exit Date**

First _____

Second _____

Third _____

Additional Instructions on Flexibility (see instructions*):

_____**Trailhead You Will Enter (Circle one):**

Stuart/Colchuck Snow Eightmile Other

Trailhead You Will Exit (Circle one):

Stuart/Colchuck Snow Eightmile Other

Areas Where You Wish to Camp (see map):Enchantments Stuart Colchuck Snow/Nada
Eightmile CarolineIf Enchantment zone permits are not available, are you
willing to camp at Snow or Colchuck Lake instead? You
may then hike to the Enchantments for the day only.☐ **Camp at Snow**☐ **Camp at Colchuck****Applications postmarked prior to
FEBRUARY 21 will be rejected.****Incomplete applications may result in
delays in processing or automatic rejection.****Mail Application To:**Leavenworth Ranger Station
Attn: **Enchantment Reservations**
600 Sherbourne
Leavenworth, WA 98826**Be Sure To Include:**Fee of \$3 per person per **DAY**, including
ENTRY and **EXIT** days:

<input type="text"/>	X	<input type="text"/>	X	<input type="text" value="\$3"/>	=	<input type="text"/>
Number of People		Number of DAYS				\$ Amount Enclosed
		(Days, not nights)				

Make checks payable to:

USDA, Forest Service

in U.S. funds only

- **This fee is nonrefundable if the reservation is confirmed.**
- **A \$10 administration fee will be charged for changes (see section on trip changes).**
- **Allow at least 2 weeks for processing.**
- **You will receive written confirmation of acceptance or rejection of your application.**
- **Dogs are not allowed in permit area.**

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY

DATE: _____

AMOUNT: _____

RESERVED: _____